

283305

Kirk Childers

Feb 21, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

With respect, I simply cannot afford an increase in the amount asked for by Duke Energy. I live frugally and try to save money to buy dentures which I am in desperate need of because I cannot chew my food and I have almost choked trying to swallow food. I do not have an automobile and no family or friends that I can depend on for assistance. Every cent I get from my Social Security Retirement and a part time job must be accounted for AND at times I skip meals to assure that my rent and utilities can be covered.

Sincerely,
Kirk Childers

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MAR 13 2019
PSC SC
MAIL / DMS